The Blurb

Newsletter of The Phil−Mont Mobile Radio Club

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The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL−MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. ***Copying and quoting*** is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. ***Subscriptions*** are available to non−members for $10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

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For club information: contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes, and articles that are for the membership e−mail list should be sent to:
wb3koj@comcast.net

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second non−holiday Wednesday** of every month except July and August at
The Masonic Village at Lafayette Hill
801 Ridge Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA
19444−1799
All visitors are welcome!

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter/ 70cm Net**.....at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10−on−10 Net** .....at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net** .....at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

License Examinations

are held on the **first non−holiday Thursday** each month (except July and August) at
Northeast High School,
Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia PA
Registration begins at 6:00 P.M. Enter through the SPARC wing. Exams begin and doors closed and locked at **6:30 P.M. Sharp!** .Applicants should call Dusty ND3Q at 215−879−0505 (day) or 215 482 0386 (eve) for the latest information.

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater − *Trustee*: W3BBB
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
W3AA at Northeast High School −*Trustee:* WU3I
Cottman and Algon Streets, Philadelphia, PA
W3EM − Field Day and special event station
Trustee: **W3VVS**

President: **W3STW**
Al Tribble
2848 Carter Rd.
Trevose PA 19053
wstw@juno.com

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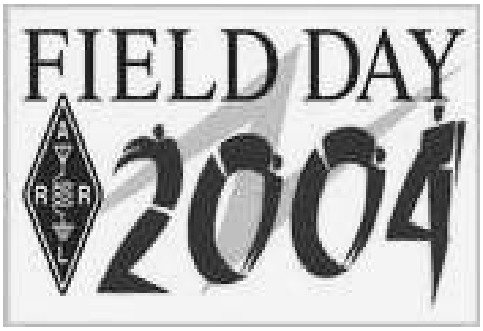
Asst. Treasurer: N3MT
Micheal P. Taraborrelli
mtarab01@villanova.edu

Directors: **W3BBB(05), N3MT (05), N3XKE (05) WU3I (04), K3XS(04), N3XYZ(04), KB3IV(A)**

Committees

Archives: NG3P
Audit: NS3K
Awards: open
Blurb folding: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH
Directory:WB3KOJ
DX: N3MT
Emerg.Coor.: K3HWE
Field Day: KE3QB
Internet: K3XS
Membership: W3LEN
Net Control: KB3IV
Publicity: W3RM
Program: Club VP
Public Service: open
Refreshments: W3AOK
Repeater: W3BBB
Skywarn: WX3PHI
Sunshine: N3GLU
Youth: N3MT
TVI: W3VVS
VE Program: ND3Q
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
Welcome: K3CJ.



PMRC FD 2004

PMRC's 2004 Field Day has just completed as this issue of the Blurb is composed. We don't have any pictures as yet, but it was an event−filled weekend.

Friday evening saw violent thnderstorms and heavy rain at the FD site in Ft. Washington State park. Your Blurb editor elected to wait until Saturday morning to drive to the site.

Under the guidance of our new Field Day Chairman, Carmen KE3QB, early preparations went smoothly on Saturday morining, until an unfortunate accident injured Steve WU3I, our antennas and towers expert, (and many years Field Day Chairman and field kitchen specialist).

Concern about Steve's injuries did put a damper on the proceedings, but those present pulled together to see that our Field Day effort continued despite Steve's hospitalization. His absence underscored our awareness of how much work he has done for the club's Field Day in years past, and emphasized to us how even in an emergency drill, we should avoid becoming too on a single resource, no matter how good they are at it, or how willing to work.

Contributions from many people deserve recognition, but Steve K3PHL, Laura KB3LRA, and Ted N3OWM were conspicuous in the field kitchen, and several members of Steve's family pitched in with loading the trailer and recovering his truck during tear−down on Sunday afternoon. I'm sure Carmen will have more to say on the subject later on.

We don't yet have a final score tally. However, the consensus seemed to be that conditions in some bands (notably 10 meters) were much better than in recent years.

The equipment in the satellite station performed flawlessly (after some last minute integration engineering, although the same cannot be said for the spacecraft on orbit. Your editor supplied an FT−847, KAM−Plus TNC, Linux computer for tracking info, APRS, and message traffic management in a fairly sizable tent shelter.

Al W3STW provided a Windows laptop, 2m and 70cm yagis, G−5000 rotors driven by ZL2AMD's UniTrack 2003 software and hardware. Al haa a very clever "tripod" fashioned out of an aluminum 19" electronics rack. Having antenna autotracking really reduces the workload.

We had a great satellite station, but FO−29 was beaten up pretty badly by the heavy Field Day usage, and making contacts eluded us. However we did provide an APRS demonstration, NTS message traffic to the Section Manager and Emergency Coordinator, and originated 10 NTS radiograms, all activities that generated FD bonus points. We also copied quite a number of voice QSOs from the International Space Station, although we did not manage to make contact.

We hope to present a more detailed report on 2004 Field Day in a later edition of the Blurb.

ECHO launch set for June 29

(ARRL, Jun 28, 2004) −− Although the satellite project is still some $12,500 shy of its $110,000 fund−raising goal, AMSAT−OSCAR ECHO is at its launch site−−Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan−−and ready to go into space Tuesday, June 29. AMSAT says if all goes well, command stations will make initial communication attempts with the microsat−class satellite during its pass over the eastern US, at approximately 1452 UTC, and continuing with the next two US passes. AO−ECHO's transmitter (the UHF digital/telemetry downlink is 435.150 MHz FM) will not be turned on for a complete orbit until it is established that the spacecraft is operating normally. The transmitter will be shut off before the end of the pass window over the US, and transmission may be intermittent over the US as ground controllers work with the satellite. It may take up to two months to commission AO−ECHO. Its planned sun−synchronous orbit will be approximately 800 km above Earth. Among other capabilities, AO−ECHO will allow satellite voice communication using handheld FM transceivers. ECHO will feature V/U, L/S and HF/U operational configurations, with V/S, L/U and HF/S also possible. FM voice and various digital modes−−including PSK31 on a 10−meter SSB uplink−−also will be available.

FLASH! AMSAT Echo Launched!

SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS−181.01
ECHO Launched

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 181.01 From AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD. June 29, 2004
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS−181.01

Chuck Green, N0ADI, reported by phone from the Baikonur Cosmodrome that the launch of AMSAT Echo and the other satellites occurred on time at 6/29/2004 0630 UTC. He watched the rocket climb out and said it appeared to be flying straight and true. A second phone call from Chuck 18 minutes later confirmed that the launch carrying AMSAT OSCAR Echo was successful and that all spacecraft had separated successfully.

Chuck was assisted in the final integration and checkout process at Baikonur by the team from SpaceQuest which included Dr. Dino Lorenzini KC4YMG, Mark Kanawati N4TPY, and Lyle Johnson KK7P. The SpaceQuest team members are also AMSAT members and volunteers.

A first attempt to turn on Echo will be made during its pass over the US at about 1430 UTC. Initial transmissions will be short, just enough to gather some telemetry and analyze the performance of the power system. Those first downlink signals will be on 435.150 MHz FM at 9600 bps.

The correct callsigns for Echo's Pacsat Broadcast Protocol Digital system
are:

Broadcast: PACB−11
BBS: PACB−12

The callsigns reported in ANS−180.01 were incorrect.

A telemetry decode program, TLMEcho, is available for those who would like to view and report data from Echo. It may be downloaded from
http://web.infoave.net/~mkmk518/echo.htm

If you record telemetry please send the CSV files to ke4azn@amsat.org. A database for all telemetry has been established and will be tested over the next few days. When testing is complete it will be made available for direct upload of telemetry files as well as queries on any and all data.

Please do not transmit to Echo until checkout and commissioning has been completed and the satellite is made available for general use.

[ANS thanks Chuck, N0ADI, and Jim, WD0E, for the above information]

/EX

Spread the Word

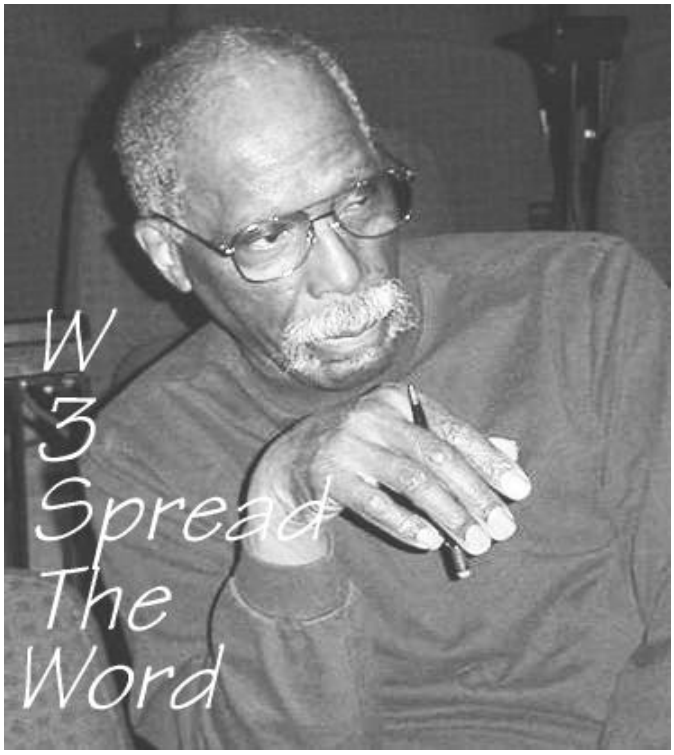
Greetings Phil−Monters, please note a couple of changes to last months column.

The student named Ahmead should be identified as Ahmed and his call is KB3KOA.

Congratulations to the Magnet school students that participated in the June ’04 NASA shuttle simulation mission to the International Space Station (ISS) it was a success. Each year the students design a mission plan based on activities that take place on one of NASA’s Shuttles and or the ISS. Flight director Nicholas Tassos provided this year’s "plan".

The students role play NASA’s Houston mission control center and the flight crew, aboard the Shuttle and ISS activities.

This years mission was updated to include the satellite amateur radio experiment (SAREX).



During the November 28 to December 8, 1983 STS 9 Spacelab−1 mission, aboard the U.S. space shuttle Columbia, Dr. Owen Garriott (W5LFL) realized his long sort after idea to experiment with amateur radio in space. During the flight, using 2 meters, he contacted more than 250 hams SAREX was deemed a success. Dr. Garriott first proposed the idea to NASA in 1972 to fly a 2 meter radio aboard Skylab but NASA turned him down.

Thus when Phil−Mont Mobile Radio Club (PMRC) members offered to teach an amateur radio Technician class license to the Magnet school students, (SAREX requires a FCC Amateur Radio License) Mr. Anthony Matarazzo (magnet school director) accepted.

As they say "the rest is history" as documented in the May ’04 Blurb "Spread The Word’ column and a Philadelphia TV channel 29 documentary recorded on a CD ROM.

Philmont Board of Directors Meeting, June 2, 2004

Al Tribble, W3STW called the meeting to order at 7:52 pm.
Attending the JUNE BOD meeting were as follows: Erik N3YXZ, FRED WA3KIO, Al W3STW, Maggie K3XS, Steve WU3I, Dick W3RM , Jim W3BBB,Bill W3AOK, Steve, WU3I, Gene N3XKE, Mike N3MT and Jim NS3K.

Dick, W3RM reported that there was little activity in the treasury the past month.Small amount of receipts and even smaller expenses. The treasury is in good shape.

Jim, W3BBB reported that the UHF final is junk. But the good news is that Jeff, W3NA is going to donate a UHF final to PMRC. WN3A is the repeatermeister of the Univ of Penna repeater system.Also, on the donation front, N3BKN, Charles Lutz has donated 3 GE power supplies and 2 MUP transmitters to PMRC. Thanks to both gentlemen for their help.

The Board also approved additional expenditures for the upkeep and maintence of the repeater. Rick, N3FD is presently working on the Southampton site.

Steve, WU3I reported that the rotor for the tower at W3AA has been lubed and is all ready for installation on the tower. He also reported that FOX news ran a one and a half minute segment on the space simulation that took place at W3AA in May. There was talk about making the video available on the club's website.

Mike, N3MT reported that there was only 3 weeks left for a decision for this year's Haring Scholarship winner. Mike also suggested that PMRC should target younger amateurs via the website.
On the membership front, Jerry N3RPW and Barbara KB3KCA were also approved as the newest members of Philmont. Welcome aboard. The meeting was closed at 8:55 pm. The next BOD meeting will not take place until September. Everyone, have a great summer.

73, NS3K

ARRL VEC

216th Monthly Phil−Mont

VE Exam Session Statistics
for June 30 2004

Six candidates took nine elements, and we had one upgrade and three new amateurs. The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads **ND3Q**, and the other participating VEs were

Gene Dinardi N3XKE
Stuart Tener N3GWG
Jim McCloskey NS3K
Bob Freer W3WLT

Upcoming Exam Sessions:
to be announced
(See page 2 for details)

Philmont Mobile Radio Club June Meeting

Philmont President, Al Tribble called the April to order at 7:59 pm.

Dick, W3RM gave the quick treasury report. Not much activity for May. He also took the time to introduce Jerry, N3RPW who is a new PMRC member, thanks to the BOD meeting on June 2nd.

Al then took time to read a

thank you letter from the club to Marilyn Miller thanking her for the tower donation to W3AA.

Maggie, your Blurb editor stated the Blurb is running just fine but as always, any and all articles are welcomed.

Steve, WU3I reported that if we are lucky, the tower for W3AA may go up later this summer. He then showed the FOX news video of the space simulation event at W3AA that was broadcast in May

KB3IV reported that the nets are doing well. There is more participation with the HF nets on 10 and 75 meters. All are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

Dusty, ND3Q then gave the VE exam results. Six canadates showed up. We had 3 new amateurs as well as 3 upgrades. The next VE session will probably be held on the 2nd Thursday of September. Stay tuned to the repeater nets for the latest info.

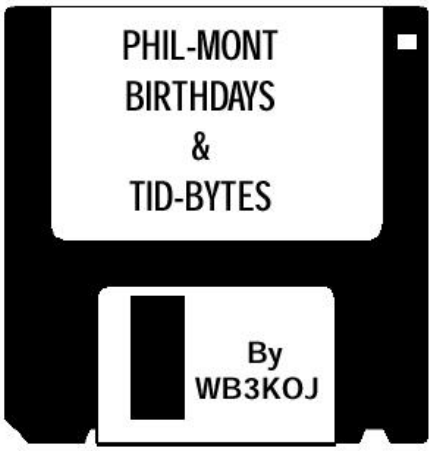
Bill, W3AOK gave a brief talk on the Wachovia bike race event. Both the City and bike people were happy with the amateur participation.

Carmen, KE3QB gave a Field Day report. Although by the time you read this Field Day will probably be history. Think about next year.

After all the reports were finished Lou, WX3I gave a good and rather lengthy presentation on Skywarn and what they do and how things work.

At the conclusion of his presentation the meeting was adjourned. As with the Board of Director's meetings the regular club meetings will be suspended for the summer but will resume come September.

Till then,
73 de NS3K



MEMBERSHIP STATS
At press time PMRC has:
103 FULL PAID MEMBERS
9 FAMILY MEMBERS
1 YOUTH
1 HONORARY MEMBERS

July Birthdays

2 Ted Katz − N3OWM
Alice Popovic (XYL W3AOK)
03 Nicole Bohlander (XYL WA3KLR)
04 Marion Blum (XYL W3PTB)
Leah Hughes − KB3AIN (XYL W3LEN)
10 Natalie Gordon − WB3KOH
James Perry − W3JRP
11 Jeffery Kerber − N3VE
12 Grace Smith (XYL K3GBA)
14 Larry Clifford − W3UY
19 Christine Fichera (XYL KB3DQH)
20 Valerie Hill (XYL KB3HNB)
Nick Sparozic − AA3WA
23 Art Weiner − WX3PHI
24 Chris Kerber (XYL N3VE)
25 Jinny Haring − W3IIN
27 Robert Hill − KB3HNB
29 Jim Larkin − KA2FFP
31 Steve Hoch − WU3I

Remember!

Although the Blurb publishes every month, the PMRC general meetings and board meetngs are suspended during July and August

Have a great summer!

Date	July 2004 with PMRC
Thu 01	
Fri 02	
Sat 03	
Sun 04	Independence Day–NCS 2m K3XS–HF W3XYZ
Mon 05	
Tue 06	
Wed 07	**No Meetings in July or August**
Thu 08	**No Exams in July or August**
Fri 09	
Sat 10	
Sun 11	NCS 2m:WU3I–HF WA3KIO
Mon 12	
Tue 13	
Wed 14	**No Meetings in July or August**
Thu 15	
Fri 16	
Sat 17	
Sun 18	NCS:2m KB3IV–HF KB3IV
Mon 19	
Tue 20	
Wed 21	
Thu 22	
Fri 23	
Sat 24	
Sun 25	NCS: 2m WB3KOJ–HF W3STW
Mon 26	
Tue 27	
Wed 28	
Thu 29	
Fri 30	
Sat 31	

First Class Mail

The Blurb

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115